

TOP SECRET

17 October 1968

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 17 October 1968

ADD/I advised that the Task Force LOOKOUT report is negative.

ADD/I drew attention to a memorandum by [ ] indicating that once again DIA and CIA have parted company on the estimate of enemy strength in South Vietnam. Although the differences on figures at this point in time are not large, the fact that there is wide variance in the respective methodologies employed suggests that in the future numerical differences will reflect large gaps. DDCI indicated that General Carroll is aware that methodology is really the problem and that he is prepared to meet with General Wheeler and the Director for a candid discussion of the methodology question. The Director concurred in the utility of such a meeting.

25X1

[ ]

Godfrey advised that a report is in indicating that Ambassador Bunker is on his way to see President Thieu again this morning.

25X1

Godfrey noted that, peace rumors and press reports to the contrary notwithstanding, MACV has extended Marine operations in the DMZ for another two weeks.

Godfrey reported that a paper has been prepared on situations in Latin America where the military could be prompted to take power. Particularly vulnerable countries include Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Guatemala, and Venezuela.

Godfrey drew attention to the commencement of HIGH HEELS-68 this morning and suggested that senior officials may wish to visit the

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

25X1

Operations Center at some point during the exercise. He indicated that there is a briefing in the Operations Center each morning at 1000.

[REDACTED]

25X

D/ONE reported that it is hoped the Laos SNIE will reach USIB in two weeks.

[REDACTED]

25X1

Carver drew attention to the article by William Tuohy in the Sunday Los Angeles Times on CIA's role in Vietnam.

Carver reported that [REDACTED] briefed the Bundy group on North Vietnamese use of Cambodia for transshipment of supplies. Since MACV and the Agency differ on whether Cambodia is merely a pipeline or serves as a more conscious point of transshipment, Bundy has asked that a senior official mastermind a study on the Cambodian matter. The Director concurred in [REDACTED] being given this charge.

25X1

25X

Maury reported that there is more than usual interest in the North Atlantic Assembly and that the United States delegation will be a high-powered one. When we are asked, delegation members will be briefed on the basis of NIE 11-17.

[REDACTED]

25X

25X

DD/S&T reported that an SR-71 flew last night.

[REDACTED]

TOP SECRET

25X

TOP SECRET

25X1

Executive Director advised that, as a result of the good notices emanating from our recent Project USEFUL, the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations and four other flag-rank members of his office have indicated their desire for a several-hour briefing on CIA in our Headquarters.

[REDACTED]

25X1

The Director concurred in DDCI's suggestion that the GMAIC report be struck from the USIB agenda today and remanded for a better statement of what purposes [REDACTED] will serve. General Carroll agrees with this approach.

X1

DDCI advised that no nominations are in for the GMAIC Chairmanship and suggested that USIB go into executive session today to hash out this matter.

[REDACTED]

25X1

The Director passed D/ONE a request from Tom Hughes for a Special Estimate on Latin American economies.

The Director drew attention to a report [REDACTED] that Soviet pressure is mounting to get Algerian agreement to Soviet use of the Mers-el-Kebir Naval Base facilities.

25X1

The Director asked the ADD/I to begin preparing briefing materials for bringing the President-elect up to speed on major issues early in November. In this connection, the Director emphasized the need to prepare meaningful graphics as briefing aids.

The Director urged Agency officials to maintain their cool and go about their business during this period of rumors concerning Vietnam.

[REDACTED]

25X1

L. K. White

TOP SECRET

25X1